

Mayor	Robin S. Gardner	703-534-8644
Vice Mayor	M. R. Lindy Hockenberry	703-241-0934
City Council	David C. Chavern	703-538-2398
	Harold Lippman	703-237-9089
	Daniel Maller	703-731-8433
	David F. Snyder.	703-241-0419
	Daniel X. Sze	703-538-5986
City Manager	Wyatt Shields	703-248-5004*
Home Page	<www.fallschurchva.gov>	
* Indicates TTY 711 Accessibility		



THE WEEK

PROVIDED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY THE CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Questions or Comments? City of Falls Church, Harry E. Wells Building, 300 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046 **703-248-5003 (TTY 711)**
The City of Falls Church is committed to the letter and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This document will be made available in alternate format upon request. Call 703-248-5003 (TTY 711).

FOR THE WEEK OF

CITY CALENDAR	
AUGUST	
9	Story Hour, 10:30 a.m.
10	Sunset Cinema, 8:30 p.m.
11	Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-Noon
13	Yard Waste, Bundled Brush, & Special Collections Story Hour, 10:30 a.m. City Council, 7:30 p.m. Volunteer Fire Department Business, 8 p.m.
14	Story Hour, 10:30 a.m.
15	General District Court NOT in Session Story Hour, 7 p.m. Library Board of Trustees, 7:30 p.m. Tree Commission, 7:30 p.m.
16	Story Hour, 10:30 a.m.
17	Sunset Cinema, 8:30 p.m.
18	Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-Noon
19	Youth Fall Soccer Registration Ends

Recreation & Parks Fall 2007 Brochure

Check your mailboxes for the Recreation & Parks Division's Fall 2007 Brochure. It lists information on special events and classes available at the Community Center. Registration for City residents begins Monday, Aug. 20 and non-residents may register beginning Monday, Aug. 27. The Fall 2007 Brochure is also available online at www.fallschurchva.gov.

2007 Vehicle Verification Forms Due Aug. 21

The Commissioner of the Revenue mailed Vehicle Verification Forms to all City residents last week. If you have purchased or sold a vehicle in 2007 or have other changes to your vehicle record, you must return your completed form to the Commissioner by Aug. 21. Prompt receipt of your changes ensures accurate Personal Property (Vehicle) Tax bills when the Treasurer's Office issues them in early September.

Forms can be faxed to 703-248-5212; e-mailed to commissioner@fallschurchva.gov; or mailed to Commissioner of the Revenue, 300 Park Ave., Room 104E, Falls Church, VA 22046. Questions? Call 703-248-5065 (TTY 711).



Register for the City's Online Newsletter at www.fallschurchva.gov



alert.fallschurchva.gov
Register to Receive Emergency Alerts

4th Annual Sunset Cinema Features Three Blockbuster Hits Three Fridays in August

The City of Falls Church Recreation & Parks Division presents the 4th Annual Sunset Cinema in the Park three Fridays this August. The screenings begin at 8:30 p.m. and are free to the public. Moviegoers are invited to bring blankets, bug spray, and picnics and watch three great movies under the stars. Ice cream will be available for purchase.

The screenings will be held at Cherry Hill Park, located at 312 Park Ave. In the case of inclement weather, the screenings will take place in the Community Center located next to the Park at 223 Little Falls St. For more information, call 703-248-5077 (TTY 711).

City Street Paving

The following streets are scheduled to be paved beginning Monday, Aug. 13. Each street will take several days to complete, weather permitting.

- South Washington Street (Route 29) from West Broad Street to Annandale Road
- North Washington Street (Route 29) from West Broad Street to Columbia Street
- Church Place from East Broad Street to the dead end
- North Cherry Street from East Broad Street to East Jefferson Street
- Maple Avenue from Great Falls Street to Columbia Street



Friday, Aug. 10, 8:30 p.m.
"Happy Feet" (Rated PG, 2006)

Friday, Aug. 17, 8:30 p.m.
"The Wizard of Oz" (1939)

Friday, Aug. 24, 8:30 p.m.
"Charlotte's Web" (Rated G, 2006)

The City of Falls Church is committed to the letter and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request a reasonable accommodation for any type of disability, call 703-248-5077 (TTY 711).

- Falls Avenue from West Broad Street to the dead end
- Paving will be conducted between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. Paving will be completed one lane at a time to allow through traffic. Please watch for "No Parking" signs and refrain from parking on the street on the indicated dates/times. Residents will be able to enter and exit their driveways while work is in progress.
- For more information, please contact the Operations Division of the City's Department of Environmental Services at 703-248-5081 (TTY 711).



The 2007 Concerts in the Park series came to a close last week. Hundreds of Falls Church families enjoyed a night under the stars while listening to live music and viewing artwork by local artists. The Falls Church City Recreation & Parks Division, Village Improvement Society, and Falls Church Arts thank you for a great season and look forward to seeing you at next year's Concerts in the Park series. Photo by Gary Mester.

Classes and Events

Special Events
4th Annual Sunset Cinema
Fridays, Aug. 10, 17 and 24, 8:30 p.m.
Cherry Hill Park, 312 Park Ave.
Free fun for the entire family! Bring a blanket, bug spray, and a picnic and spend the evening watching a movie on a large, outdoor screen. Ice cream available for purchase.

Aug. 10
"Happy Feet"


Aug. 17
"The Wizard of Oz"

Aug. 24
"Charlotte's Web"

Mary Riley Styles Library Activities
120 N. Virginia Ave.

Fingerprint Art
Thursday, Aug. 9, 2 p.m.
See how you can create unique pictures – and even a whole book – with the tips of your fingers! Registration required. Call 703-248-5034 (TTY 711).

Mystery Night
Wednesday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m.
Be the detective! Gather clues, question suspects and try to figure out which of the Mary Riley Styles Library Players committed a crime!



City of Falls Church
Farmers Market
Every Saturday
from 8 a.m. - Noon

Going Green

Neighborhood Teams Help Improve Water Quality

Do you know where the water goes after it runs off your roof, yard, or driveway and into the nearest storm drain? Water that flows into our storm drains runs directly to the nearest stream, without treatment. This means that our behaviors at home have a direct and lasting impact on our local streams, the Potomac River, and the Chesapeake Bay.

Since 2003, selected Falls Church City neighborhoods have been participating in a national pilot project called the Livable Neighborhood Water Stewardship Program. Through this program, volunteer leaders recruit their neighbors to form a team that works together to help each individual become a better water steward. A workbook with a "menu" of activities is provided to each team member and participants choose actions that best fit their lifestyle and interests.

- Water-friendly actions include:
- reducing the use of toxic products in your home and yard,
 - creating a rain garden,
 - and installing water-saving devices.

Each team meets four times over a two- to three-month period, providing support to team members in their efforts to become better water stewards. To date, 20 teams have formed in the City of Falls Church.

Recently, the Gresham Place Team worked in cooperation with their home owners association and the City of Falls Church Arborist to plant native, watershed friendly plants in Crossman Park and on the slope behind Gresham Place in order to reduce runoff and prevent further slope erosion. Thanks for your community involvement, Gresham Place!

A team leader training session will take place on Saturday, Sept. 29 from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Falls Church Community Center. To register or to find out more about the program, please contact Kathy Allan, Environmental Programs Specialist, at 703-248-5176 (TTY 711) or kallan@fallschurch.va.gov.

Fall Festival and Taste of Falls Church a Perfect Pairing

On Saturday, Sept. 15, the City of Falls Church welcomes the fall season with the newly combined Fall Festival and the Taste of Falls Church. This free event features local artists, restaurants, live entertainment and children's activities from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on the grounds of City Hall and the adjacent Cherry Hill Park.

Restaurants and artists interested in participating can contact Jenny Elmore at 703-248-5077 (TTY 711) or jelmore@fallschurchva.gov. **The deadline to register is Wednesday, Aug. 15.**

Falls Church Recreation & Parks Division
223 Little Falls Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
703-248-5077*

Phone Numbers

Open Gym/Weather Hotline	703-248-5125*
Special Events Hotline	703-248-5178*
Fax	703-536-5125
Senior Center	703-248-5020/21*

Community Center Hours

Monday-Thursday	8 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Friday	8 a.m. - Midnight
Saturday	8:30 a.m. - Midnight
Sunday	Noon - 6 p.m.

Open Gym Hours

Open Gym hours are updated on a bi-weekly basis and are also posted on the Open Gym Hotline, 703-248-5125*. All hours are subject to change.

* Indicates TTY 711 Accessibility

LY FOCUS

GOVERNMENT AND THE FALLS CHURCH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AUGUST 9-15, 2007

For more news about the Falls Church City Public Schools visit: www.fccps.org

Chairman: Craig Cheney 703-237-6931
Vice Chairman: Ronald Peppe II 703-534-4951
School Board
Rosaura Aguerrebere 703-536-8638
Kathryn Chandler 703-536-7564
Susan Kearney 703-532-0321
Kieran Sharpe 703-536-3130
Joan Wodiska 703-533-1248
Superintendent: Dr. Lois Berlin 703-248-5601*
* Indicates TTY 711 Accessibility

Citywide Street Sweeping

The City of Falls Church has contracted with Reilly Sweeping to provide Citywide street sweeping on pre-scheduled weeks in August, September, and December 2007. (Streets are not swept during leaf collection season, October through mid-December.)

Street sweeping helps reduce the volume of pollutants that enter local streams through the City's 900 storm drains. Using a tandem sweeping method, the first sweep picks up large, visible objects (e.g., paper, cans, cigarette butts, and other debris), while the second sweep vacuums fine particulate matter.

Street Sweeping Schedule:

Weather permitting, sweeping will be conducted Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m.-5 p.m., during the weeks of Aug. 20, Sept. 17, and Dec. 17, 2007.

Mondays - Commercial Areas

Tuesdays and Wednesdays - Thursday and Friday Refuse Collection Areas (areas north of Broad Street)



Thursday and Fridays - Tuesday and Wednesday Refuse Collection Areas (areas south of Broad Street)

Residents are advised to move vehicles off residential streets, if possible, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. when street sweeping is scheduled for their area.

For more information, please contact the Department of Environmental Services Operations Division at 703-248-5081 (TTY 711).

Cooling Assistance Program Acceptance Period Ends Aug. 15

Eligible low-income residents in the City of Falls Church have until Wednesday, Aug. 15 to participate in the Cooling Assistance Program. The program is designed to help residents keep their homes cool this summer and prevent a health emergency resulting from extreme heat.

The federal program is administered locally by the Fairfax County Department of Family Services, with which the City contracts to provide services to Falls Church City residents.

The Cooling Assistance program helps eligible low-income households with:

- The purchase, replacement, and installation of an air conditioner unit
- Repairs to a central air conditioner unit or heat pump
- Payment of an electric utility security deposit
- Payment of electric bills to operate cooling equipment

To be eligible for any type of Cooling Assistance, certain income and citizenship criteria must be met. In addition, you must have a vulnerable person living in your household: a child under six years of age, an adult over 60 years old, or anyone receiving SSI or SSA as 100 percent disabled.

Residents can download the application at www.dss.virginia.gov/benefit/ea/cooling/index.html or pick one up at the Fairfax County Department of Family Services, located at 6245 Leesburg Pike in Falls Church (Tel: 703-533-5300, TTY 703-533-5316). Those requiring assistance in completing the application may contact the City's Housing and Human Services Division at 703-248-5005 (TTY 711).

FCC-TV Spotlight: *Education News Parents Can Use*

Tune in to Falls Church Community Television (FCC-TV) to watch *Education News Parents Can Use*. The program focuses on schools, learning, and the federal No Child Left Behind Act. This program features viewer call-ins, lively discussion, and one-on-one interviews with top educators, parents, and community leaders. *Education News* airs on FCC-TV at the following times:

• Mondays at 5:30pm • Tuesdays at 5:30pm • Sundays at 3:00pm

FCC-TV airs on Cox Channel 12, Verizon Channel 35 and RCN Channel 2. For more information about FCC-TV, or complete schedule of the variety of community programs on FCC-TV, visit www.fccv.net or call 703-248-5538.



BIE Partner of the Week Carolyn Quill Wilhelm & Associates



School involvement: Serves on the BIE Advisory Committee; volunteer reader for Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) Days; helped organize Elementary PTA Spring Fling.

Why Carolyn is a BIE partner: "There are many ways to volunteer in Falls Church – and I've served on several local committees. Working with the BIE gives me the opportunity to share my professional skills with the schools that are at the heart of our community."

For more information about sharing your expertise through the BIE Partnership, visit www.fccps.org or contact Marybeth Connelly at connellym@fccps.org.

Mason Graduates Aim for Higher Education

George Mason High School students have a longstanding tradition of excellence. The class of 2007 gave GMHS the highest high school graduation rate in the metropolitan Washington D.C. area (97.5%), and 90 percent of those graduates are heading to college. This far exceeds Virginia's average college-going rate of 57 percent and the national average of 55 percent as compiled by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems.

The GMHS class of 2007 applied to 252 colleges and universities across the country and abroad, including 8 Ivy League schools. Virginia colleges and universities received nearly 300 applications from George Mason High School students. Of those, 126 applications were accepted, 72 students indicated they would attend Virginia schools and 19 were placed on a waiting list.

"It's important to note that most of our 159 graduates applied to more than one college and were accepted by more than one college, which gave them the option of choosing," GMHS Guidance Director Amy Kurjanowicz said. "Financial considerations are often of primary importance along with location and other opportunities offered by the schools."

The highest number of GMHS 2007 graduates attending a single four-year institution is 8. These students will matriculate at the University of Virginia. The next five after UVA (8) are: James Madison University (7), Virginia Tech (6), Christopher Newport University (6), George Mason University (6) and Virginia Commonwealth University (5).

The full list can be found at www.fccps.org/news.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

August

- 9** 10:00 AM Mason @ Rappahannock County (Golf)
- 14** 1:00 PM Mason @ Strasburg (Golf)
- 16** 1:00 PM Madison Co. @ Mason (Golf)
- 17** 6:00 PM Wakefield @ Mason (Football - Scrimmage)
- 20** Orientation for New Teachers Begins (GM)
7:00 PM School Board Work Session (MEH)
- 28** 7:30 PM School Board Meeting

September

- 3** **Labor Day** (Central Office/Schools/Day Care closed)
- 4** First day of school
(MD) Mt. Daniel Elementary
(TJ) Thomas Jefferson Elementary
(MEH) Mary Ellen Henderson Middle
(GM) George Mason High

Check the FCCPS Web site for more calendar information.
www.fccps.org

Reminder: Make Sure Immunizations Are Up To Date

While parents are usually diligent in staying on track with vaccinations for pre-school children, they sometimes forget that booster shots and other immunizations are required for older children. With the start of a new school year just a few weeks away, all parents are reminded to make sure their children are fully immunized before classes begin.

Special Note for Rising 6th Graders

Since the start of the 2006-2007 school year, a booster dose of pertussis-containing vaccine (Tdap) has been a requirement for students entering the sixth grade unless that child has had a tetanus-containing vaccine within the last five years.

Last fall, approximately 3,000 sixth-grade students in 60 Virginia school divisions were temporarily excluded from attending school because they had not received the Tdap booster.

The Tdap booster for 10 and 11 year olds can be obtained from a physician. The booster is also available free of charge from the Fairfax County Health Department. Students receiving immunizations at the health department must be accompanied by an adult and should have their immunization records with them.

Your child CANNOT begin school in the fall without documentation of having had the Tdap booster or having a tetanus-containing vaccine within the past five years.

The documentation must be mailed or taken to the guidance office at Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School by August 28th, 2007. Students who do not have documentation on file will not be admitted to school on September 4, 2007.

For more information, contact the public health nurse at 703-237-6014.



Save the Date

SECOND ANNUAL

"RUN FOR THE SCHOOLS"

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 8:00 A.M.

Register online at: www.fccps.org/run

School content published in *The Weekly Focus* is written and edited by the Falls Church City Public Schools. For more information, contact the Falls Church City Public Schools Communications Office. Phone: (703) 248-5699 Fax: (703) 248-5613.